GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2009
UTILISATION OF WASTE FOREST LAND
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of waste forest land in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government proposes to utilise the waste forest land;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a)to (d) A statement has been laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a),(b),(c) and (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.59 by Shri Jasubhai Dhanabhai Barad regarding "Utilisation of Waste Forest Land" to be replied on 18.02.2009

(a) Assessment of waste forest land in the country as a classification has not been undertaken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. However, as per the State of Forest Report, 2005 published by the Forest Survey of India, the degraded forest lands having canopy density less than 10 percent, categorized as scrub, constitute an area of 38,475 Sq. Km. State-wise details of such lands has been placed as Annexure.

(b)&(c)The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme for regeneration and eco-development of degraded forests and adjoining areas. The scheme is being implemented through a two-tier decentralized set-up of Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the Forest Division level and Joint Forest Management Committees(JFMCs) at the village level. As on 13.02.2009, 795 FDA projects have been operationalised to treat an area of 1.546 million ha. through 30,560 JFMCs at a cost of Rs1857.82 crore.

(d) Does not arise.